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ARLINGTON, VA 22209-3873 02/24/2006 MBEYENE2 00000056 10600576 1400.00 OP 01 FC:1501 020(Depositor's name) 300.00 DP (Signature) (Date) APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. 06/23/2003 503.35255VX1 9629 10/600,576 Kinya Aota TITLE OF INVENTION: FRICTION STIR WELDING METHOD AND STRUCTURE BODY APPL. TYPE SMALL ENTITY **ISSUE FEE PUBLICATION FEE** TOTAL FEE (S) DUE DATE DUE 02/22/2006 Nonprovisional NO \$1400 \$300 \$1700 **EXAMINER** ART UNIT CLASS-SUBCLASS JOHNSON, JONATHAN J 1725 228-112100 1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address: (37 2. For printing on the patent front page, list CFR 1.363). (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys 1 ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT П Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence AND KRAUS, LLP. Address form PTO/SB2122 attached. Or agents OR, alternatively, agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of single firm (having as a "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form member a registered attorney or agent) PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of Customer and the names of up to 2 registered patent Number is required. attorneys or agents. If no name is listed no name will be printed. 3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type) PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment. (A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY) HITACHI, LTD. **TOKYO, JAPAN** \boxtimes Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Government Corporation or other private group entity 4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed: 4b. Payment of Fee (s): 冈 A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed. Issue Fee \boxtimes Payment by credit card> Form PTO-2038 is attached. Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted) The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Advance Order- # of Copies Deposit Account Number 01-2135 (enclose an extra copy of this form). 5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above) b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2). a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) An application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and Submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete This form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent tot eh Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450. Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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